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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Fogarty et al. Examiner: TBA
Serial No.: 10/790,374 Group: Art Unit TBA
Filed: March 1, 2004 Docket: 2484 CON 10
(203-3456 CON X)
For: METHODS AND DEVICES
FOR BLOOD VESSEL HARVESTING Dated: May 12, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

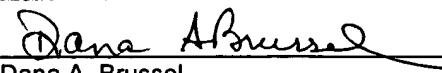
Pursuant to applicant's continuing duty of disclosure, it is respectfully requested that the disclosures cited in the annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application.

The references listed were previously cited and submitted in the parent application, U.S. Application Serial No. 10/244,330 filed September 16, 2002. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) and 35 U.S.C. §120, copies of the references can be obtained in the above-identified application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 12, 2004

Dated: May 12, 2004


Dana A. Brussel

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☒ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☐ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(ii).
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))

☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account
No. 21-0550.

☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R.
§1.17(p).

☐ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to
Deposit Account No. 21-0550.

☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which
may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time
during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment
of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any
extensions of time for responding are required for the pending
application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the
time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

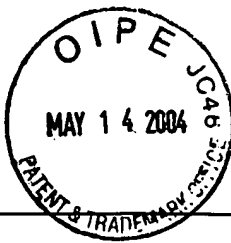


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DAB/jjp



Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) (203 - 3456 CON X) 2484 CON X	Application Number 10/790,374
Applicants Fogarty et al.		
Filing Date March 1, 2004		Group Art Number TBD

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	2,944,522	7/12/60	Cannon			
	4,271,839	6/9/81	Fogarty et al.			
	4,469,100	9/4/1984	Hardwick			
	4,479,497	10/30/84	Fogarty et al.			
	4,493,711	1/15/85	Chin et al.			
	4,597,389	7/1/86	Ibrahim et al.			
	4,793,346	12/27/88	Mindich			
	5,410,089	8/20/1991	Mueller et al.			
	5,346,503	9/13/94	Chow			
	5,352,219	10/4/94	Reddy			
	5,359,995	11/1/1994	Sewell, Jr.			
	5,366,478	11/22/94	Brinkerhoff et al.			
	5,373,840	12/20/94	Knighton			
	5,397,333	3/14/95	Knoepfler			
	5,423,842	6/13/95	Michelson			
	5,445,990	8/29/95	Yook et al.			
	5,445,632	8/29/95	Blake et al.			
	5,480,379	1/2/96	La Rosa			
	5,522,824	6/4/96	Ashby			
	5,540,711	7/30/96	Kieturakis et al.			
	5,591,183	1/7/97	Chin			

Examiner	Date Considered
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
		5,593,418	1/14/97	Mollenauer			
		5,601,581	2/11/97	Fogarty et al.			
		5,601,589	2/11/97	Fogarty et al.			
		5,611,814	3/18/97	Lorenc			
		5,632,761	5/27/97	Smith et al.			
		5,667,480	9/16/97	Knighton et al.			
		5,730,748	3/24/98	Fogarty et al.			
		5,762,604	6/9/98	Kieturakis			
		5,772,680	6/30/98	Kieturakis et al.			
		5,846,256	12/8/98	Mathis et al.			
		RE 36,043	1/12/99	Knighton			
		5,860,997	1/19/99	Bonutti			

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
		0 573 273 A2	12/8/1993	EPO				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

		"SaphLITE™ Saphenous Vein System" Copyright 1998-Genzyme Surgical Products, 4/98 (4 pages).
		"Endoscopic Subfascial Discission of Perforating Veins" (G.Hauer et al., Surg. Endosc. (1988) 2:5-12)
		"Long saphenous Vein Harvesting" (W.Meldrum-Hanna et al., Aust. N.Z.J. Surg. 1986, 923-924).
		"Vein Harvest" (Alan B. Lumaden & Gelmont Faves, III, Endoscopic Plastic Surgery (Quality Medical Publishing, Inc., 1995), pp. 535-543- Not available.
		"Endoscopic Plastic Surgery" Snowden-Pencer, Inc., (1993 Brochure)- Not available.
		"A quick and atraumatic method of autologous vein harvesting using the subcutaneous extraluminal dissector" (W.R. Dimitri et al., J. Cardiovasc Surg., 1987; 28:103-11).

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